

VZCZCXR08738
PP RUEHMA RUEHPA
DE RUEHAR #0416 1271403

ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 071403Z MAY 09
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7819
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE
RUEHPC/AMEMBASSY LOME 2209
RUEHCO/AMEMBASSY COTONOU 0856
RUEHAB/AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 0849
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 0824
RUEHFN/AMEMBASSY FREETOWN 0434
RUEHMV/AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 0836
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0926

UNCLAS ACCRA 000416

SIPDIS

OES/OMC FOR DIERDRE WARNER-KRAMER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EFIS](#) [SENV](#) [AORC](#) [ETRD](#) [XA](#) [GH](#)

SUBJECT: GHANA SEEKS UNIFIED RESPONSE TO PORT STATES AGREEMENT

REF: SECSTATE 041986

¶11. Regional Environmental Officer (REO), Econ Chief, and Regional Environmental Program Assistant met with officials from the Ghanaian Ministry of Food and Agriculture. Representatives of the GOG included the Director of Fisheries, Mr. Alfred Tetebo, the Deputy Director of Fisheries, Mr. George Hutchful, and the Officer-In-Charge of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance, Mr. Papa Yaw Atobrah. The reftel demarche was delivered and GOG officials were receptive and would deliver the message to the Minister of Food and Agriculture.

¶12. The GOG has not taken a position on this Port State Agreement. Mr. Papa Yaw Atobrah seemed particularly aware of the issues and the potential shortcomings if the agreement was negotiated within the framework of the FAO including ratification being a major hurdle. GOG officials also indicated that Adelaide Boateng-Siriboe at the Ghanaian Embassy in Rome may represent Ghana at the FAO. The GOG officials repeated several times during the meeting that West African nations must speak with one voice to avert economic losses. They also stressed that capacity building is a major issue.

TEITELBAUM